

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 2 is cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 1 is amended herein, and claims 4-10 and 15-26 are objected to.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 3-26 are currently pending and under consideration.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1 AND 11 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

In item 1 on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Examiner states that claims 1 and 11 are rendered indefinite "because it is unclear in which condition the first eccentric bush changes to a maximum eccentric portion and in which condition the second eccentric bush changes to a maximum eccentric portion and how the locking pin changes the position of the first/second eccentric bush."

Applicants respectfully disagree that claims 1 and 11 are indefinite and unclear because claims 1 and 11 clearly teach that the locking pin changes a position of the first or second eccentric bush to a maximum eccentric position, "according to a rotating direction of the rotating shaft." Support for the above feature can be found, for example, in paragraphs 0034-0043 at pages 8-10 of Applicants' specification.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

III. DOUBLE PATENTING

In item 2 on page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that claims 1-3 and 11-14 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 and 22 of copending Application No. 10/807,285.

With regard to claims 1-3 and 11-14 of the instant application, it is believed that any submission of a Terminal Disclaimer or arguments as to the non-obvious nature of the claims would be premature since copending Application No. 10/807,285 has not yet been issued as a patent and since all of the claims of the instant application have not yet been indicated as allowable except for the provisional rejection. MPEP § 804(I)(B). As such, it is respectfully

requested that the Applicants be allowed to address any obviousness-type double patenting issues remaining once the rejection of the claims is resolved or on allowance of copending Application No. 10/807,285.

IV. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-3 AND 11-14 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(E) AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY CHO ET AL. (US 6,860,724)

Claim 1 is amended herein and recites, "an angle between a maximum eccentric part of the first eccentric bush and a maximum eccentric part of the second eccentric bush is less than 180° in a rotating direction of the first or second eccentric bush which executes a compression operation." Similar to claim 1, claim 11 recites, "an angle between the maximum eccentric parts being less than 180°."

Cho does not disclose the above-described features as recited in the amended claims 1 and 11. Therefore, it is submitted that claims 1 and 11 patentably distinguish over the teachings of Cho.

Claim 2 is cancelled herein. Claim 3 and claims 12-14 depend from claims 1 and 11, respectively, and therefore, patentably distinguish over the cited prior art for at least the same reasons as claims 1 and 11.

Dependent claims 3 (depending from claim 1) and 12-14 (depending from claim 11) recite patentably distinguishing features of their own, and further, are at least patentably distinguishing due to their dependencies from independent claims 1 and 11. For example, in contrast to Cho, dependent claim 3 recites, "the locking pin is positioned between the first and second eccentric cams, which are eccentric in a same direction, and the first and second eccentric bushes are integrated with each other by a connecting part, which connects the first and second eccentric bushes to each other, with a slot of a predetermined length being formed around the connecting part, and the locking pin coming into contact with a first end or a second end of the slot while the rotating shaft is rotated as the locking pin is inserted into the slot, to cause the first and second eccentric bushes to be rotated as the position of either of the first and second eccentric bushes is changed to the maximum eccentric position with respect to the rotating shaft." The Examiner does not point out where the above-described features as recited in claim 3 are taught in Cho. Nonetheless, Cho does not disclose the features recited in claim 3.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

V. CONCLUSION

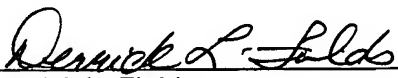
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that each of the claims patentably distinguishes over the prior art, and therefore defines allowable subject matter. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection along with an indication of allowability of all pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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